


WIGSTON MAGNA
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
FOR THE YEAR 1904.

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REPORT.

WHITE LODGE,

KIRBY MUXLOE,

LEICESTER,

27th February, 1905.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Wigston Magna
Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to present my Third Annual Report on the Health and Sanitation of your District.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population :—Census 1891, 6,916 ; Census 1901, 8,404 ; estimated to the middle of 1904, 8,957.

During 1904 218 births and 98 deaths were registered in the District. The addition of 8 deaths in public institutions elsewhere among persons belonging to Wigston Magna brings the total to 106. 23 of these deaths were in Infants under one year, and 27 were in persons of 65 years and upwards.

The “natural increase” in the population, *i.e.*, the excess in the number of births over deaths is 112.

The Birth rate is 24.3 per 1000 of the population.

The Death Rate is 11.8 „ „ „

The Zymotic Death Rate is . 0.78 „ „ „

The Infant Mortality Rate is 105 per 1000 Births.

The Birth Rate is, with the single exception of that which I published last year, the lowest so far recorded in your District.

It is satisfactory to record that for the third year in succession I have the pleasure of publishing a series of mortality rates

considerably below the decennial averages, and comparing most favourably with the analagous figures for England and Wales.

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

The following deaths were registered :—

Measles	..	..	..	..	2
Whooping Cough		..	..	..	1
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	..				2
Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	2
					—
Total	..				7
					—

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

I record 14, eight of which were caused by Consumption. Disinfection by formalin spray and steam is carried out after these deaths. The disease is voluntarily notifiable, but only one case was so reported during the year, and one other I detected by bacteriological examination of sputum. Unfortunately the majority of patients object to notification.

OTHER CAUSES OF DEATH.

There were 12 deaths from Cancer. Enteritis is accredited with 4 deaths. There were 12 deaths among premature and imperfectly developed infants. Bronchitis and Pneumonia jointly caused 13 deaths, and there were two from other respiratory diseases. Diseases of the heart proved fatal in 8 instances. Three deaths were accidental and one was suicidal.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following infectious cases were notified :—

Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	22
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	12
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	6
Chicken Pox	..	..	..	..	7
					—
					47
					—

All the cases of Scarlet Fever and all save one—notified when convalescent—of Diphtheria were removed to the Blaby Isolation Hospital.

SMALL POX.

Seven “contacts” were under observation, but in no instance did the disease develop. One case of Chicken-pox in an adult was strictly isolated at home with other members of the family for a week, pending the result of vaccination.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANEOUS CROUP.

The accompanying retrospective table shows that the falling off in the prevalence of Diphtheria to which I last year directed attention, has not been sustained. The cases notified since 1895 are as follow :—

1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
15	18	8	10	16	11	48	37	9	22

One case was notified in April and two in May. A notification in August and two in the third week of September were followed by 13 in October, two in November and one in December. Each case led to a Sanitary Inspection and the rectification of discoverable defects. One Sunday School was disinfected and the Council Schools were closed from 17th to 28th November. Two cases proved fatal.

SCARLET FEVER.

Only 6 cases came under observation. This is the lowest number recorded during the past ten years, the notifications in that period being as follow :—

1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
26	35	114	24	25	46	89	47	33	6

ENTERIC FEVER.

I am glad to report that for two successive years your town has enjoyed immunity from this disease.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

The prevalence of Measles and Whooping Cough in South Wigston led to School closure both prior and subsequent to the summer vacation.

SANITARY SUPERVISION.

Details would be merely reiterative of remarks in my last two Annual Reports. Disinfection is thorough and efficient. Fifty houses were disinfected with formalin spray and fifty lots of clothing were steam disinfected.

A statistical summary of the sanitary work completed during the year is furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, and is appended to this Report. I would direct attention to the necessity for abolishing such insanitary pits as still remain in your District. It is significant that no less than seven of the patients attacked with Diphtheria resided in houses provided with these pits. The prominent part they play in the perpetuation and dissemination of Zymotic disease is now so notorious that the necessity for their abolition is incontrovertible. Their retention involves a large annual expenditure on hospital isolation and other preventive measures.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

These have been regularly inspected and the statutory provisions have received strict attention. No cases of sweating or overcrowding have come under observation, and the general conditions under which operatives work are satisfactory. Details of sanitary supervision are summarized in the appended Table, which is furnished by the Home Office with a view to providing for uniformity in the submission of Statistics.

The Tables required by the Local Government Board are also appended.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. E. O'CONNOR, CAPT.,

Medical Officer of Health,

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

(1) INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number of			
	Inspections.	Written Notices.		Prosecutions.
Factories (including Laundries)	29	...	2	...
Workshops	35	...	—	...
Workplaces	12	...	—	...
Homeworkers' Premises ...	48	...	2	...
	—		—	—
Total ...	124	...	4	..
	—		—	—

(2) DEFECTS FOUND.

			Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.		Number of Prosecutions.		
Nuisances	2	...	2	...	—	...	—
Sanitary accommodation :									
Insufficient	2	..	1	...	—	...	—
Not separate for sexes			1	...	—	...	—	...	—
Breach of special sanitary									
requirements for Bakehouses			1	...	1	...	—	...	—
			—		—		—		—
Total	...		6	..	4	...	—	...	—
			—		—		—		—

HOMEWORK.

Lists of Outworkers :—

	Lists.		Outworkers.	
Lists received	40	...	717	

Addresses of Outworkers forwarded to other Authorities 32

„ „ received from other Authorities 16

Homework in unwholesome and infected premises :—

	Wearing Apparel	
Cases of infectious disease notified in Homeworkers' premises ...	11	
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises...	2	

Bakehouses on Register at end of 1904 8

Total number of Workshops on Register (including Bakehouses) 42

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Complaints	No. received	147
Premises, houses, etc. ..	No. inspected	1201
	Nuisances abated	167
Pool, ditch, gutter, watercourse	No. inspected	2
	Nuisances abated	1
Privy, urinal, cesspool, ashpit	No. inspected	930
	Nuisances abated	18
Drain, drain-traps, etc. ..	No. inspected	120
	Nuisances abated	70
Offensive accumulation ..	No. inspected	1
	Nuisance abated	1
Other insanitary conditions ..	No. inspected	77
	Nuisances abated	77
Slaughter houses	No.	10
	No. of inspections	20
Dairymen, cowkeepers, purveyors of milk	No. in District	17
	No. of inspections of premises ..	32
Offensive trades	No. established	2
(Sec. 112, P.H. Act, 1875.)	No. of inspections	5
Public Health Act, 1875 ..	No. of houses cleansed and limewashed	4
Infectious diseases	Houses affected with	50
	Houses inspected	50
	No. of inspections	109
	Houses disinfected	50
	Schools „	3
	Disinfectant used .. Sulphur and formaldehyde	
	Lots of clothing disinfected ..	50
Privy middens	No. converted to W.C.'s ..	9
Pail or earth closets	New provided	2
Water closets	No. supplied with water ..	23
	New provided	14
Ashpits	No. converted to ashbins ..	9
Ashbins	New provided	19
Water supply	Samples taken for analysis ..	2
	Samples condemned	1
	Wells closed	1
	Wells cleansed, repaired, etc. ..	1
	Public supply substituted for wells	9
	Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered	1
	Waste pipes disconnected from drain	3

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Workshops	..	..	..	Total number on register (including bakehouses)	..	..	42
				No. in which nuisances abated..			2
Bakehouses	..	..	..	No. on register	..	..	8
				No. in which nuisances abated..			1
Home work	..	..	..	No. of outworkers	..	..	717
				No. of houses	..	..	298
				No. of infected houses	..	..	2

WILLIAM GEORGE J. CLARK,

Sanitary Inspector.

J. E. O'CONNOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

WIGSTON MAGNA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

RAINFALL IN 1904.

Taken at South Wigston, near Leicester, 230·85 feet above
sea level.

MONTH.	Total depth in inches.	Greatest fall in 24 hours.		No. of days on which or or more fell.
		Depth.		
January	2·550	·715	31st.	20
February	2·493	·46	9th.	17
March... ..	1·672	·25	7th.	15
April	0·885	·245	22nd.	11
May	1·807	·48	26th.	13
June	0·115	·04	9th and 14th	3
July	2·768	1·40	25th.	10
August	3·565,	1·71	22nd.	12
September	1·140	·445	2nd.	10
October	0·573	·26	16th.	8
November	1·076	·245	10th.	10
December	1·470	·225	11th.	19
TOTAL	20·114	—	—	148

WILLIAM GEORGE J. CLARK,

Surveyor.

TABLE 1.—Giving the Number of Births and Deaths in the Wigston Magna Urban District during the Years 1895 to 1904.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES.		Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate per 1000 of estimated population	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number	Rate per 1000 of estimated population		Number.	Rate per 1000 of estimated population
1895	7,569	255	33·6	46	180	120	15·8	...	120	15·8
1896	7,708	301	39·0	54	179	138	17·9	...	138	17·9
1897	7,847	267	34·0	43	161	120	15·2	...	120	15·2
1898	7,986	271	33·9	40	147	102	12·7	...	102	12·7
1899	8,125	266	32·7	35	131	110	13·5	...	110	13·5
1900	8,264	255	30·8	52	203	139	16·8	...	139	16·8
1901	8,443	262	31·0	31	118	111	13·1	6	117	13·8
1902	8,611	236	27·4	25	105	93	10·8	2	95	11·0
1903	8,781	208	23·6	23	110	86	9·7	4	90	10·2
Averages for years 1895-1903	8,175	258	31·5	38	147	113	13·8	...	...	...
1904	8,954	218	24·3	23	105	98	10·9	8	106	11·8

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water)

Total population at all ages

Number of inhabited houses

Average number of persons per house

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District :

The Union Workhouse, Enderby.

The Isolation Hospital, Blaby.

The Leicester Infirmary.

1,941

8,404

1,819

4·6

At Census of 1901.

TABLE IV.—Showing Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1904
in the Wigston Magna Urban District.

	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	St. Wolstan's Ward.	Central Ward.	All Saints' Ward.	Fairfield Ward.	Bassett Ward.
Measles... ..	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	2
Whooping Cough ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup	2	..	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Diarrhoea	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Enteritis	4	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	1	1	2	...
Phthisis... ..	8	..	...	...	5	3	...	3	3	...	1	1
Other Tubercular Diseases	6	1	4	..	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	3
Cancer, Malignant Disease	12	...	...	...	...	5	7	1	5	4	1	1
Bronchitis	9	2	1	...	...	2	4	3	1	1	1	3
Pneumonia	4	...	1	...	1	2	...	1	1	...	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	..	2	...	...	..
Premature Birth ...	12	12	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	1	...	4
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	1	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	1	...	...	...
Heart Disease	8	1	...	3	...	1	3	2	2	1	1	2
Accidents	3	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	1	1
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
All other Causes ...	29	5	5	...	2	6	11	6	6	6	5	6
All Causes	106	23	16	5	9	26	27	21	30	16	14	25

TABLE III.—Showing Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904, in the
Wigston Magna Urban District.

Notifiable Disease.	At all Ages.	Cases notified in whole District.							Cases notified in each Ward.					Cases removed to Hospital from each Ward.					
		At Ages—Years.							No. 1 Ward. St. Wolstan's	No. 2 Ward. Central.	No. 3 Ward. All Saints'	No. 4 Ward. Fairfield.	No. 5 Ward. Bassett.	For whole District.	No. 1 Ward. St. Wolstan's	No. 2 Ward. Central.	No. 3 Ward. All Saints'	No. 4 Ward. Fairfield.	No. 5 Ward. Bassett.
		Under 1	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.												
Diphtheria	22	...	2	14	4	2	...	...	1	8	6	7	21	..	1	8	5	7
Erysipelas	12	...	1	2	5	3	1	2	...	6	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever...	6	1	2	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	6	...	1	1	2	2
Chicken Pox	7	1	5	...	...	1	...	3	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	48	2	10	19	10	6	1	5	4	16	13	10	27	...	2	9	7	9	

